



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Ed AUSTIN, et al.

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EXAMINER: Shaffer, Richard R.

FOR: EXTERNAL FIXATION APPARATUS AND METHOD

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DATE: November 2, 2006

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments to the specification and claims and consider the following remarks in response to the Final Office Action mailed August 7, 2006 (the "Action"). A Request for Continued Examination ("RCE") is being filed concurrently herewith.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 8 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 20 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 2, 2006.


Geoffrey K. Gavin - Registration No. 47,591